

Project Name:

Lake County Law Enforcement Vehicles and Security Upgrade Project

Recipient:

Lake County, Montana

Address:

106 4th Avenue East, Polson, MT 59860

Amount Requested:

\$300,000

Project Explanation:

The Lake County facility currently maintains felony authority over both Indian and non-Indian offenders throughout the County, as well as misdemeanor authority for non-Indian offenders. Lake County is feeling the brunt of the opioid crisis – particularly with the abundance of fentanyl trafficking along highway 93, the main artery running north to south across the county. Lake County's detention facility is severely under-sized and over-crowded with a substantial, and growing, number of drug-related offenses. This requires both additional pre-detention screening and an increased need to move prisoners to other facilities in the state due to the lack of capacity. The requested funds would be allocated to procure: a) two fully-outfitted police cruisers and b) one Full Body Security Scanning System.

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2601

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
House Appropriations Committee
H-307, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Lake County Law Enforcement Vehicles and Security Upgrade Project

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I am requesting funding for the Lake County Law Enforcement Vehicles and Security Upgrade Project in Fiscal Year 2024.

The entity to receive funding for this project is the Lake County Commission, located at 106 4th Ave E, Polson, MT 59860.

The funding would be used for the purchase of two fully-outfitted police cruisers and one Full Body Security Scanning System. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because the Lake County detention facility currently maintains felony authority over both Indian and Non-Indian offenders throughout the County, as well as misdemeanor authority for non-Indian offenders. Lake County is feeling the brunt of the opioid crisis – particularly with the abundance of fentanyl trafficking along Highway 93, the main artery running north to south across the county. Lake County's detention facility is severely undersized and over-crowded with a substantial, and growing, number of drug-trafficking offenses. This requires both additional pre-detention screening and an increased need to move prisoners to other facilities in the state due to the lack of capacity.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "Ryan K. Zinke". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a prominent "R" and "Z".

Ryan Zinke
Member of Congress